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# Richmond Times-Dispatch

RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1918. —TEN PAGES

WEATHER — FAIR  
PAGE 4  
PRICE, TWO CENTS

BRING IN YOUR WANT  
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Early Delivery of Sunday Want Ad  
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## TO AUTOMATICALLY CLASSIFY ALL MEN OF MILITARY AGE

Proposed Draft Rules Will  
Relieve Registrants From  
Embarrassment.

SECRETARY ..... APPEARS  
BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE

Explains Necessity for Early Pas-  
sage of Department's Man-  
power Measure.

DEFER CALL OF YOUNGER MEN

President Will Be Authorized to De-  
lay Call of Those Under 19  
Years of Age.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—New draft regulations, under which the government would do the selecting rather than leaving it to the registrant, are under consideration by the War Department. This was disclosed today by Secretary Baker after he had appeared before the Senate Military Committee to urge prompt enactment of the new selective service act extending the age limits to include all men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five.

The War Secretary made it plain that he is not satisfied with the present system, under which the registrant must claim deferred classification, as many men with dependents hesitate, for patriotic reasons, to make such a claim. In this connection, Mr. Baker said he was inclined to the opinion that the outright relation will in itself constitute deferred classification.

What Mr. Baker has in mind is to lay down a set of questions which the registrant would answer, and then have rules which would take care of the classification. He is understood to regard this as the fair and equitable system.

The discussion on the draft ages before the Senate committee, Mr. Baker said, followed much the lines taken by the March 1917 bill, and the Proviso-Marchand amendment. The committee, he added, did not indicate any disposition to question the necessity for the change, which is urged so that the War Department can quickly secure the men necessary to win the war.

NO CHANGE IN "WORK  
OR FIGHT" REGULATION

"There was some discussion," Mr. Baker said, "as to whether it was the intention of the department to extend the 'work or fight' order to include classes of persons in various professional occupations. I told them there was no present change of the 'work or fight' order in contemplation. I said that when I decided the baseball case, I thought, perhaps, other forms of amusement and entertainment might require an extension of the order to be on a parity with the baseball situation, but that was not in their mind."

"They had heard from outside sources that the department was considering bringing professional classes, like lawyers, newspaper men and persons who were not actually engaged in producing war supplies under the order."

The committee, Mr. Baker said, was especially interested in the effect of the extension of the draft ages on colleges and also in the question as to whether young men from eighteen up would be drafted indiscriminately in class 1 or placed in a deferred class by age and drawn later, giving them some added months to come to maturity.

PRESIDENT TO DEFER  
CALL OF YOUNGEST MEN

"I told the committee," said the War Secretary, "that no fixed policy had been determined upon by the department, but that the purpose was to allow the President to defer in class 1 the call of the youngest men. I have always considered, as you perhaps remember, that nineteen was the preferable minimum, and I have come to the eighteen minimum only because it seems necessary to get the men; not that I think men of eighteen are necessarily too young, because I do not think that. I think that history shows that boys from eighteen to nineteen are immensely valuable; as valuable, perhaps, as from nineteen to twenty; but I think there is a sentiment in the country which will look with very much more anxiety upon the boys from eighteen to nineteen than the boys from nineteen to twenty. Eighteen years seems to many people a more tender age than nineteen, and it is for that reason that we are thinking of making this preferential deferment of men from eighteen to nineteen."

SENATORS SAID THAT IN URGING SPEEDY  
ENACTMENT OF THE NEW MAN-POWER BILL,  
MR. BAKER HAD LEFT TO THE JUDGMENT  
OF CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS THE QUESTION  
OF RECALLING THE SENATE IN SESSION  
BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE RECESS  
PROGRAM—AUGUST 26—BECAUSE THE LEADERS  
ARE MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE LEGISLATIVE  
PROGRAM THAN IS THE SECRETARY.

WANTS TO REGISTER  
MEN BY SEPTEMBER 5

Mr. Baker told the committee, Senators said, that the department wanted to carry out the plan of registering the men September 5, so that class 1 could be resupplied. The present reservoir soon will be exhausted, and it was said that either the size of the monthly calls must be increased or men taken from the deferred classes.

Secretary Baker was the last of army and navy officials to be called before the committee begins consideration of the new bill. Because of the committee's visit to the war council, Chairman Chamberlain announced that no meeting would be held to-morrow but that the committee would assemble

(Continued on Second Page.)

## Neutrals Would Lose Their Independence if Huns Won

That the neutral nations of Europe would lose their independence should the Huns win a German peace is the declaration made by a diplomat in a story which appears in this issue. The distinguished author admits that it is quite possible, even probable, that Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden and other non-belligerent countries would be allowed to retain a formal independence, but this would be but a shadow of freedom, and by economic penetration, Germany would gradually blind them in chains. The author emphasizes the fact that these nations would be subject to Germany's almost undivided attention, as, in any event, Germany's former overseas trade connections would not be resumed.

## ANARCHY AND BLOODSHED INCREASE IN RUSSIA

Swedish Steamer Lands Many Refugees From Numerous Parts of Petrograd.

FAMINE CLAIMING ITS VICTIMS

Military Officers Are Loaded Into Vessels and Sent to Sea, Where Bottoms Are Opened and They Are Drowned Like Rats.

LONDON, August 20.—All accounts from Eastern Russia show that disorder, anarchy and bloodshed continue to increase from day to day. A Stockholm dispatch to the Morning Post states that a Swedish steamer has arrived from Petrograd bringing a number of refugees of all nationalities. They say that famine and cholera claim numerous victims daily, and that there is no security for life and property. Military officers are especially subject to the hatred of the Red Guards. Hundreds of several hundred officers are being taken in barges down the Neva to the sea, where the bottoms of the barges are opened and the officers drowned like rats.

General officers with gray hair can be seen brought by young armed Red Guards to open places and shot.

In Siberia, Bolshevism has almost disappeared, except so far as it is supported by the bayonets of released German and Austrian prisoners.

A body of Russian soldiers will shortly appear on the western front with one of the allied armies. The troops are clothed in khaki and are well armed and disciplined.

## LENINE'S DECLARATION WILL NOT DELAY U. S.

Believed His Announcement That State of War Exists Will Have Little Weight.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Announcement by Premier Nikolai Lenine, of the Bolshevik government, that Russia is in a state of war with the allies will in no way retard immediate execution of the plan to extend economic aid to Siberia.

This flat declaration was obtained at the White House and the State Department today. A careful study of the official reports is said to have convinced President Wilson that Lenine has yielded to the influence of the German ambassador at Moscow rather than to the sentiment of the Russian people.

To know the real attitude of the Bolsheviks is to have the situation clarified, it was stated. Prior to this every step taken had been made in the dark. Lenine will be quick to shift his sympathies, it is thought, as soon as it can be demonstrated that the success of the American and allied plan will lift the German yoke of oppression from Russia.

The very fact that the pronouncement does not appear to be predicated on any plan for hostile aggressive action is regarded as evidence that the policy of the Bolshevik leaders was hastily considered.

## STRIKE OF TELEGRAPHERS ONCE MORE THREATENED

Executive Committee of Southeastern District Voted to Call Out Men at Noon Monday.

ATLANTA, GA., August 9.—The executive committee of the southeastern district of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America, it was announced today, has voted to call a strike of telegraphers employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company in the South-east at noon August 12, unless the operators discharged by the Western Union are reinstated. Copies of the resolution were sent to President Wilson, Postmaster-General Dugan and S. J. Koenigsmann, president of the national organization of the telegraphers, according to A. F. Joyner, chairman of the southeastern district.

## WILL DRILL AT CAMP LEE

Officers of Slavic Legion of American Army to Obtain Instruction in Virginia.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
WASHINGTON, August 9.—Officers for the Slavic legion of the American army, to be composed of Jugos-Slavs, Czechos-Slavs and Ruthenians (Ukrainians) will be trained at Camp Lee. It was announced today by the War Department in issuing general orders for the organization of the first foreign legion to fight under the Stars and Stripes.

No units in the Slavic legion will be larger than regiments at present, and these regiments, after receiving their number in the American army organization, will be allowed to retain "Slavic Legion" in their official designation.

## ILLINOIS SENATOR ON SECRET MISSION

James Hamilton Lewis Leaves for France, After Long Conference With President

BARELY CAUGHT STEAMSHIP

Believed Voyage Has to Do With Discussion of Peace Attitude of Allies.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Senator James Hamilton Lewis, of Illinois, Democratic whip, has gone to France on an important secret mission for the government.

Senator Lewis left hurriedly after a long conference with the President at the White House. He barely had time to catch the steamship upon which he was asked to sail. Even today his colleagues suppose Senator Lewis to be in this country and will be greatly surprised to learn of his journey, as they believed he would take an active part as a member of the Finance Committee, in framing the new war-revenue legislation.

There is a possibility that Senator Lewis may be kept abroad for two months or more to carry through the work mapped out for him by the President, and if he is so detained he will occupy a unique position as a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate from Illinois. He will be thousands of miles away from his constituents and able to send only short communications. His friends will have to look after his interests.

It is the best opinion of officials that Senator Lewis's mission has to do with the informal discussion with ministers of the French, British and probably Italian governments of the attitude of the United States and the allied governments toward peace proffers or proposals from the central powers, or that he is to discuss proposals that may come from any of the peoples now under the domination of the military autocracy of Germany.

PROMINENT IN DISCUSSION OF PEACE TERMS IN SENATE

Senator Lewis has been prominent in discussion of peace terms in the Senate, and the accuracy with which he defined this government's attitude was interpreted as reflecting the President's confidence and a thorough understanding of the administration view. For a time, the United States was in a receptive mood, and Senator Lewis freely stated the broad terms that would interest this government, but as German duplicity and frightfulness made it impossible even to carry on the informal discussions started by the President, Senator Lewis warned against further discussion of peace terms until a military decision had brought Germany to her knees, or a revolution had taken some of her people out of bondage and into the fraternity of Democracy.

France has little to say on the subject because her own territory is involved and her direct dealings with Germany, the violation of the neutrality of Belgium in order to invade her soil in an attempt to crush her utterly, have taught her to disregard the utterances of the Prussian until he crawls on his knees in supplication. It is important, therefore, that this government should have a thorough understanding through informal discussion of the attitude of France toward peace when a military victory over Germany shall make the discussion of terms timely and important.

Senator Lewis, it is believed, will obtain this view and come back fully informed. He will not only be able to give the President the benefit of his first-hand information, but will be in a position to lead any discussion of the attitude of the allied governments on peace that may arise in the Senate.

## BRITISH FORCES SEE VALUE OF GIVING ENEMY SURPRISE

Believed Victory Gained, Has Done Away With Long Preliminary Bombardments.

LONDON, August 9.—The new blow delivered at the Germans yesterday is discussed in the British papers with keen appreciation. War correspondents and military critics unite in pointing out the value of the factor of surprise. The plans of the allies had been splendidly concealed from the enemy, and even his recent capture of prisoners in the region of the attack had not given him any information of value.

It is pointed out that the day of long preliminary bombardment has passed altogether, and everything in the most modern form of attack is sacrificed to the factor of surprise.

In this case the surprise was so great as to enable the allies to obtain a success which even the most cautious critics describe as a remarkable victory.

## BLAND'S PLURALITY 222

Unofficial Figures Nominate Him as Congressional Candidate in First District.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., August 9.—W. Otis Bland has been nominated as Congressman from the First District by 222 votes over G. Walter Mapp, according to unofficial figures made available today. The report from King and Queen County gave Goudrick 94, Mapp, 74, and Bland, 58.

Warburg to Retire.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Paul M. Warburg, the New York banker, has concluded his four-year term as a member of the Federal Reserve Board, and will not seek reappointment. He was one of the charter members of the board, and recently served as vice-governor.

## NEW BILL CREATES ADVISORY BOARD

Five Members Will Comprise It, and Will Receive \$9,000 a Year.

LUXURY TAXES CONSIDERED

Committee Declines to Impose Fee on Personal Servants at This Time.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—The creation of an advisory tax board of five members, each with an annual salary of \$9,000, was authorized by the Ways and Means Committee today in a new section of the revenue bill. The members may all be of one political party and are to be appointed by the President, with the consent of the Senate. They are to serve during the war and one year thereafter.

The function of the tax board will be to advise the Commissioner of Internal Revenue on all matters relating to the interpretation and administration of the tax laws. Cases which are in dispute will be referred to the board and investigated; reports will then be made to the commissioner for final adjudication.

The committee also decided to increase the salary of Internal Revenue Commissioner Repp from \$6,000 to \$10,000 a year.

The new board will replace the volunteer board, which is now assisting Commissioner Repp at purely nominal salaries. Several of those now engaged in the work are said to receive salaries of from \$15,000 to \$20,000 in their private business, and for this reason the committee did not believe that the salary of \$9,000 would be too high for the government to pay for doing the work.

Luxury taxes were considered by the committee during the afternoon session, and the recommendations made by the subcommittee were tentatively adopted. These include a tax of 10 per cent on jewelry and 20 per cent on articles of clothing above certain fixed values. The recommendations of the subcommittee are far below the suggestions made by the Treasury in its "Luxury List." For instance, the Treasury asked for a 50 per cent tax on jewelry sales, but the committee decided that 10 per cent was enough.

The entire committee was not yet definitely passed on its rate. The subcommittee took the articles on the Treasury list and divided them into luxuries and semiluxuries. In the former class it placed jewelry, tapestries, bronzes, furs of a certain type and a number of other articles not strictly essential or in common use. On all of these it was decided to place a 10 per cent tax, which is to be paid by the manufacturers.

ARTICLES OF CLOTHING INCLUDED IN THE LIST

On all articles in the other class the tax is to be 20 per cent, to be collected on retail sales. The articles in this class include men's suits costing more than \$50, women's suits costing more than \$50, men's dresses costing over \$50 and men's overcoats costing more than \$50. The limit on cravats is placed at \$5 each and all above that figure are to bear the 20 per cent tax. Men's shoes above \$5 and women's shoes above \$10 are to be similarly taxed.

Uniforms and other articles of apparel of army and navy officers are to be exempt from the tax.

The subcommittee declined to impose a tax on personal servants, as suggested by the Treasury Department, as it was felt such a tax would be unconstitutional.

The committee decided to increase the tax on the capital stock of all corporations from 50 cents on each \$1,000 of stock to \$1, without any exemptions. It is estimated this change will produce \$55,000,000 in revenue, which is \$30,000,000 more than the present rate yields.

## ANTI-BOLSHEVICH FORCES SEEK REFUGE IN VOLGA

Others Went to Rybinsk, Where Attempt to Incite Uprising Is Quickly Crushed.

[By Associated Press.]  
LONDON, August 9.—Anti-Bolshevik forces which recently occupied Jaroslavl, in the Volga region, have been driven out and have taken refuge across the Volga. Some went to Rybinsk, where they tried to incite an uprising in the town, but prompt measures were taken against them, according to a wireless sent out by the commissioner of war at Moscow.

The message says that on the Czechoslovak front the Soviet troops won a great victory by occupying the towns of Syzran and Vugulma, in the Simbirsk-Samara region. It claims that the city of Stavropol, in Caucasasia, is on the eve of falling to the Soviet troops, and that the Czechoslovaks are fleeing in disorder from that region. On the eastern sector, it is said, the Czechoslovaks are retreating before the Soviet troops.

## SIX GERMANS ARRESTED

Officers of Interned Liner Taken Into Custody After "Joy-Riding" Through Mediterranean.

ATLANTIC PORT, August 9.—After "joy-riding" through the Mediterranean Sea, when they were supposed to be sailing to an Atlantic port, and selling \$1,235 worth of coal and various ship stores, six officers of a German interned liner taken over by the United States Shipping Board, were arrested today.

Their arrest followed a tip from Spain. The men—E. M. Roddy, William Weaver, John Joff, James Hanslink, George McGilch and Fred Wetzel—are being held in \$5,000 bail.

# ALLIED OFFENSIVE MAKING PROGRESS

Woman Becomes Miller and Grinds Her Own Flour in Her Own Mill

CHICAGO, August 9.—The flower and flour of Chicago's housewives are beginning to become acquainted. In fact, the one is commencing to make the other with a resultant profit to both. Here are some of the significant facts in the situation which are causing the household managers to take the economic law into their own hands:

Twenty-five pounds of wheat put through the regular milling process yield approximately nineteen pounds of white flour. Twenty-five pounds of wheat put through a hand mill made for that purpose, which can be purchased for something under \$4 and operated to produce as much as the housewife herself, will yield about twenty-four and a half pounds of whole wheat flour.

This whole wheat flour isn't as white and fine as the regularly milled product, but it contains nutritive values which exceed those in the white flour.

"It actually attacks the situation on both sides at the same time," declared Miss Margaret Blair, of 745 Lincoln Parkway, yesterday. "The whole wheat flour that can be made from a dollar's worth of wheat will make more bread than can be had from a dollar's worth of white flour, and the former bread will go farther, too, in satisfying and nourishing the person who eats it."

"When can't be bought at every grocery store right now, and fluctuations in its price might tend to cut down at times the margin of economic saving. The additional nutritive, however, is always there, and additional 25 per cent in volume. If more women adopt this plan, the grocers would carry it and no one would have any trouble purchasing it."

## LAWRENCEVILLE DOCTOR SUCCUMBS TO WOUNDS

Dr. J. A. Osborne Fatally Shot by Tenant After Quarrel Over Crop Conditions.

LEFT ARM BADLY SHATTERED

Physician Is Rushed to Hospital, Where Amputation Is Found Necessary, but He Was Unable to Withstand Shock.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
LAWRENCEVILLE, VA., August 9.—Dr. Andrew J. Osborne, a former practicing physician of Lawrenceville and one of the best-known men in this section, was shot by a tenant on his farm on Thursday night about 8 o'clock near Cochran, Va., and died from the effects of the wound and shock on Friday morning about 9 o'clock at the Brunswick Hospital at Lawrenceville.

The exact cause of the difficulty leading to the shooting is as yet unknown, and the coroner's jury has not yet met, but, from reports, the man doing the shooting, a Mr. Reams, was being remonstrated with on account of his crops. One of the reports is that Dr. Osborne first shot at Reams's door, the latter then tripped at the doctor through the window, the charge of shot taking effect in his left arm, one of two striking his chest and face.

Dr. Osborne was at once rushed to the Brunswick Hospital, where amputation of the arm near the shoulder was effected, but death ensued from the shock and loss of blood. The dead man had been a most popular physician here for many years. Retired from active practice about a year ago, he has since been managing his large farm between Lawrenceville and Cochran. He is survived by his wife, five small children, mother and several brothers and sisters.

## POWERS HOLD CONFERENCE REGARDING WAR PRISONERS

Three Americans Now on Their Way to Bern to Represent the United States.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Announcement was made here today of the American representatives who will participate in the international conference at Bern, Switzerland, to determine the status, welfare and exchange of prisoners of war. They are: John W. Garrett, minister to The Hague for the State Department; Major-General Francis J. Kernan, War Department; Commander Raymond Stone, Navy Department.

Minister Garrett already is en route to Switzerland. General Kernan was serving with the American forces in France when given the assignment, and will reach Bern by the time the conference is ready to convene. Commander Stone left Washington with full instructions some days ago.

The conference will be held at the suggestion of the United States. Germany agreed to the plan when representatives from this government were made to Berlin through the Spanish ambassador. It is the official move made to discuss the question of exchanging prisoners with Germany. Representatives of all of the belligerents will participate in the discussions.

## NORFOLK CURRENT CUT OFF

Large Industries Not Engaged in War Work Are Deprived of Electricity.

[By Associated Press.]  
NORFOLK, VA., August 9.—In order that street car service may be maintained during all hours of the day, which has been impossible for three days past, electric current has been cut off from every large industry engaged in other than absolutely essential war work.

This drastic action followed several days of almost complete transportation paralysis in Norfolk, Portsmouth and suburban sections.

President Approves Price.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—The President today approved the 26-cent copper price agreed on by the war industries board's price-fixing committee and the trade.

## NO STEEL AVAILABLE FOR PLEASURE CARS

Such Is Word Given Manufacturers by the War Industries Board.

PLANTS TO DO WAR WORK

Automobile Builders Are Ordered to File at Once Full Inventories of All Materials They May Now Have on Hand.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—The War Industries Board today notified the Automobile Chamber of Commerce that there would be practically no steel available for pleasure cars, and warned the manufacturers to transfer their plants to war work by the first of the year if they hope to hold their business and their organizations together.

"We note that manufacturers have voluntarily agreed among themselves to curtail the production of passenger cars 50 per cent," wrote the board to the chamber. "This is a step in the right direction, but further curtailment is inevitable. Fairness to your industry impels us to state frankly that the situation as it presents itself today indicates very clearly that there will be little, if any, of the principal materials required in the manufacture of passenger cars available for non-war industries, after war requirements have been provided for."

"The War Industries Board cannot at this time make any promise whatever regarding the supply to your industry of steel, rubber or other materials for any definite period in advance."

"We strongly believe that it is to the interest of your members and all other manufacturers of passenger automobiles to undertake to get on 100 per cent war work as rapidly as possible, not later than January 1, 1919, or in no other way can you be sure of the continuance of your industry and the preservation of your organization."

The board again demanded that the automobile manufacturers file with it at once full inventories of all materials on hand. The companies have been slow to do this, fearing that the board would step in and take their supplies of steel, once located. Members of the board say they may have to step in and take the steel anyway for the war industries, and that when that time comes the companies which have reported they will receive better treatment than the ones which have been bucking the government's necessities.

## SCHOONER STANLEY SEAMAN IS SUNK BY SUBMERSIBLE

Hun Crew Holds Vessel and Then Places Bomb Aboard That Wrecks Craft.

[By Associated Press.]  
NEWPORT NEWS, VA., August 9.—The Stanley L. Seaman, a schooner owned by Crowell & Thurlow, Boston, and out of Newport News for a foreign port, was sunk by a bomb thrown by a submarine at 11:30 A. M. August 5, when 110 miles east of Cape Hatteras.

Captain W. C. McAloney and crew of eight men arrived here this afternoon, after being three days in a small launch in the Gulf Stream, having been picked up by a British vessel.

Captain McAloney describes the submarine as the U-132, 350 feet long, mounting four guns, two six-inch guns and aft conning tower, two small guns on either side.

The Seaman was fired on without warning when becalmed. The crew took to small boats, which were permitted to return for provisions and then put off in a gasoline launch. McAloney says the Germans spoke good English and were courteous. They looted the ship before sinking it with a bomb.

Americans Held Prisoner.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Names of sixteen American persons held in prisons of war in Germany were given out today by the War Department. The only Southerner included in the list is Lieutenant George E. Ratterman, Nashville, Tenn.

## GATHERS IN 17,000 GERMAN PRISONERS AND OVER 200 GUNS

Crown Prince Rupprecht Withdraws Forces on Two Important Sectors.

FRANCO-BRITISH TROOPS ADVANCE THIRTEEN MILES

Haig's Soldiers Capture Morlaucourt, While Poilus Occupy Arrvillers, Pierrepont, Contoire.

TANKS AND CAVALRY ARE BUSY

Enemy's Tenure of Montdidier Rendered Insecure by Success of Allies.

[By Associated Press.]  
Over a curving front of more than twenty miles the British and French troops are continuing to sweep back the Germans eastward across the plains of Picardy from the region north of the Somme east of Morlaucourt to the eastern bank of the Aisne northwest of Montdidier.

As on the first day of the offensive, material progress was made Friday over the entire front. Many additional villages were captured; the bag of prisoners was largely increased; numerous guns and great quantities of war stores were taken and heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy by tanks, armored motor cars, the cavalrymen and the infantry. The losses sustained by the Anglo-French forces are declared to be relatively small.

To the allied forces there have fallen 17,000 German prisoners and between 200 and 300 guns, many of them of heavy caliber, and innumerable machine guns, trench mortars and kindred small weapons.

To the north of the Picardy theater the Germans also have given ground on two important sectors—on the famous Lys salient, northwest of La Bassée and in the region southwest of Arras, on the equally famous battle ground north of Kemmel. On the Lys sector territory over a front of more than seven miles was evacuated by the enemy, while to the north of Kemmel the British advanced their line over a front exceeding 1,000 yards.

These maneuvers on the part of the Germans seemingly indicate that they either considered their ground insecure in the face of the heavy forces (General Haig is known to have in both regions to ward off any attempt to reach the channel ports, or that Crown Prince Rupprecht's army has been materially decreased in strength to rush reinforcements to the battle zones, where the German armies in the south are being sorely harassed.

Already having penetrated the Picardy salient to a depth of nearly thirteen miles in the center toward the vicinity of the important railroad junction of Chaumes, and at other points along the line are pushed forward between five and seven miles, the northern and southern flanks of the front, where the Germans had been receding desperately, gave way before the pressure, respectively of the British and French.

On the north, the British captured Morlaucourt and pressed on eastward, while on the south, northwest of Montdidier, Pierrepont, Contoire and Arrvillers were taken by the French, who drove in their wedge to a distance of more than eight and a half miles.

## AIRPLANES BOMB

The tanks, armored cars and cavalry are still working throughout the entire region, while airplanes are seeking far behind the lines, bombing transport and troop movements and also paying particular attention to the bridges over the Somme, by which the enemy is endeavoring to escape from their advancing foes. All behind the line the Germans are destroying ammunition dumps as they quit their positions.

With the new turn of events, Montdidier is in an uncomfortable position, with the allies hammering away from the north and the Germans holding it and with the only railroad leading into the town also under their guns.

A forced evacuation of the town seems not improbable. In fact, with further pressure eastward by the allies, between the Somme and the Aisne, and with the possibility of pressure northward against the Germans from the line running northwestward from Soissons, it is not outside the realm of possibility that the entire Montdidier salient will have to be abandoned.

There has been little fighting of great moment on the Vesle River, except in the nature of reciprocal artillery duels. The Americans, however, have made another crossing of the Vesle and captured the village of Flismette, northwest of Fismes.

## HAIG REPORTS CAPTURE OF 17,000 PRISONERS

LONDON, August 9.—The number of prisoners taken by the allies in the Picardy drive has reached the 17,000 mark, Field Marshal Haig reports in